(c) Company-wise imports of drugs are not monitored.

(d) to (g) The prices fixed by the Government for indigenous production under the Drugs (Prices) Control Order, 1979 are the maximum sale prices. Manufacture can sell at any price not exceeding the sale price. While instances of lower than Government notified prices have come to the notice of the Government. Details of purchases of other 2 drugs at prices lower than Government notified prices are not available. The process of recovery of the difference between the two notified indigenous price and the price of procurement in cases that came to the Government's notice is on in accordance with the due procedure of Law.

Non-verification of purchase invoices of bulk drug

978. SHRI (MOLANA) ASRARUL HAQ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of 75 per cent of drug formulations have been fixed based on higher prices of bulk drugs than the actual purchase and procured price of each bulk drug;

(b) if so, names of such instances which came to Government's notice;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government do not verify the purchase invoices while fixing the prices of finished medicines;

(d) whether it is a fact that consumer's interest has been ignored and formulators have made huge unintended benefits due to non-verification of purchase invoices;

(e) whether it is also a fact that Government have not been able to deliver the benefit of pricing policy to public as there is no separate Development Commissioner for the last three years; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a), (c) and (d) The prices of formulations are worked out by a sub-committee of the Drug Prices Review Committee constituted in the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices. This Committee sends its recommendations to my Ministry from time to time. In working out the prices of formulations, the Committee takes into consideration notified prices of bulk drugs and/or purchased import price whichever is relevant.

(b) Several instances of formulators procuring the bulk drug at prices lower than those notified by the Government have come to notice. In a large number of these cases, the prices of recovery of the difference in accordance with the due procedure of Law is on.

(e) and (f). As the prices of bulk drugs and formulations are recommended to my Ministry by the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices, which is an Expert Body. It cannot be said that benefit of pricing policy has not gone to the public. Price control has helped to moderate the prices of drugs.

Price Fixation of Drug

979. SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to provision 6 of DPCO, 1979, it is mandatory for every importer of bulk drug specified in first or second schedule to make an application for price fixation of drug;

(b) whether it is a fact that during the last three years, no importer applied for price fixation,